



Thursday, May 18, 2006

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Item # 33

Item(s) to Set Public Hearing(s)
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Subject: Set public hearing to consider authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute an interlocal agreement with the Austin Independent School District (AISD) to allow construction of Volma Overton Elementary School on Colony Park adjoining the Turner Roberts Recreation Center. Suggested date: June 8, 2006 at 6 p.m. City Hall, 301 West 2nd Street.

Additional Backup Material

(click to open)

☐ Parks Board Minutes

For More Information: Ricardo Soliz, Division Manager 974-8765

Boards and Commission Action: Approved by the Parks and Recreation Board on July 26, 2005.

In 1998, City bonds were approved for construction of a new recreation center to be located in northeast Austin at Colony Park. In 2004, the Austin Independent School District (AISD) bonds were approved for the construction of a new elementary school in northeast Austin. The City and AISD began a collaborative effort to meet community needs and expectations while conserving financial resources. This collaboration is intended to result in the planning and constructing an elementary school on parkland adjacent to the proposed recreation center for the purpose of sharing the gymnasium, playground and playfields.

The City and AISD have a long history of participating in joint-use projects with the most recent one being the St. John's Community Complex in 2000. Because it is being proposed that the school be constructed on parkland, a public hearing to approve the use is required under Chapter 26 of the Parks and Wildlife Code.



**Parks and Recreation Department Board Minutes
Tuesday, July 26, 2005
Meeting**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Department Parks Board was held on Tuesday, July 26, 2005 at the Parks and Recreation Department Main Office, 200 S. Lamar, Blvd. Board Room

Board members present: Board Chair Rosemary Castleberry, Board Vice-chair Linda Guerrero, Jeb Boyt, Jeff Francell, Leonard Lyons, Hector Ortiz, Clint Small and Mark Vane.

Board members absent: Marilyn Bostick

Staff members present: Warren Struss, Cora Wright, Randy Scott, Rick Ramirez, Stuart Strong and Tino Garcia.

A. Meeting called to order

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Castleberry at 6:35 p.m.

B. Board member Francell moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Board member Small. Motion passed with Board members Guerrero and Boyt abstaining.

C. Citizen Communication

Jim Kirby announced his assertion that the department is violating his free speech rights under the 1st amendment. He is unhappy that a Playboy magazine that he brought into the South Austin Senior Citizen Center was removed from a magazine rack in which he had placed it. He is accusing the City of Austin of violating his free speech rights by restricting his reading material and by restricting his communication with senior citizen companions using adult legal literature. He provided the board with a brief.

Charlie McCabe, Executive Director, Austin Parks Foundation (APF) introduced himself to the board. He announced that APF is currently conducting an Austin Parks Survey which is being administered in order to identify two or three parks that need improvements. Over 700 surveys have been submitted so far.

Stephen Kreger, President, Metro Austin Softball Association disclosed that the Softball Association Board wants to lower registration fees for each softball team in the league. Currently the fee is \$400 per team which he indicated is the highest in the state. They are requesting the fees be lowered to \$300 per team which will bring it more in line with other surrounding communities. Mr. Kreger asked the Board to support this request. Board member Guerrero suggested that the issue be sent to the Programs subcommittee for further review.

Ken Altes, Friends of Seaholm, expressed his concerns regarding the Seaholm project. He is not in favor of the City of Austin selling the Seaholm power plant. He would rather see the power plant be converted to a museum. Mr. Altes requested that the board consider two things 1) a moratorium for 90 days with no commercial development on Town Lake and 2) that the Seaholm property become dedicated parkland.

D. Presentation

An informational only slide presentation was lead by Kevin Anderson regarding the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership. The partnership consists of an informal group of nonprofit organizations, governmental agencies, businesses and local citizens concerned with the future of the Colorado River corridor from Austin to Bastrop. Their mission is to promote a healthy river corridor ecosystem to enhance public awareness of the river as a unique natural, recreational, and economic resource for the Austin-Bastrop area. Four goals were highlighted 1) Public Awareness, 2) Sustainability, 3) Riparian Management and 4) Restoration. Everyone was invited to attend the regular monthly meetings held the 4th Wednesday of each month at the Center for Environmental Research, Hornsby Bend.

E. Items for Action

- 1. Make recommendation to Council regarding AISD proposal to locate an elementary school at Colony Park – Dan Robinson, AISD**

Mr. Robinson reminded the Board that the original idea was to build the recreation center first and that the elementary school would be built when the Austin Housing Finance Corporation track was developed. Since then however, AISD is requesting approval for a joint project for the northeast elementary school and the Turner-Roberts Recreation Center. This request has been unanimously approved by the Land and Facilities subcommittee. The joint project requires the relocation of the recreation center to a common location but will delay the bidding of the project. Access and infrastructure changes are being planned to jointly maximize the benefits to both facilities. Also, there will be no change to the design of the recreation center. A traffic impact study will address the issue of pedestrian access which is a concern expressed by the neighborhood residents. The current expectation is that the recreation center would be open in May of 2007 for summer programming and be followed by the school, which would open in September 2007. Attorneys for the District and the City have begun crafting an agreement to authorize the joint project. Because of recent changes in the law, the

District will be required to lease the portion of the parkland where the school is to be constructed. Board member Boyt indicated that the Land and Facilities subcommittee has reviewed and recommends approval of the project. Board member Francell moved to approve the recommendation to Council regarding the AISD proposal to locate an elementary school at Colony Park, seconded by Board member Guerrero. Motion was approved unanimously.

2. Make recommendation to Council regarding Barton Hills Sediment Project on Parkland – Ginny Rohlich

Ms. Rohlich, Watershed Protection and Development Review, provided the Board with details regarding the funding and constructing of a project (by WPDRD) for the treatment of water that goes into Zilker Park and into Barton Springs pool. Prior findings have shown that high levels of contaminants, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH'S) have been found within the sediment of a tributary that discharges into Barton Creek, 300 ft. upstream of the Barton Springs Pool. The suspected primary source of the PAHs found in the tributary is the coal tar seal coating applied to parking lots. WPDRD has determined that the site located just upstream from Barton Springs is a prime site for a water quality retrofit. They are assessing possible alternatives such as 1) removing approximately 300 cubic yards of contaminated soil, 2) stabilizing the tributary channel by re-grading and re-vegetating to reduce the disturbance, 3) treatment of the runoff with two sedimentation/filtration ponds and 4) re-routing the run-off to the drainage channel along Robt.E. Lee Dr. to discharge below the Pool. Some trees will have to be removed and there will be temporary loss of the soccer field and the new gravel access trail. It is believed that the retrofit will provide a high level of assurance that the pollutants will no longer reach Barton Springs Pool. Board member Francell pointed out some erosion at the creek level adjacent to the project site and requested that WPDRD look at possibly fixing the bank stabilization of the area. Board member Ortiz moved to approve the recommendation to Council regarding Barton Hills Sediment Project on Parkland, seconded by Board member Boyt with the stipulation that WPDRD look into/investigate the area that needs the bank restoration. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Make recommendation regarding St. Tropez Marina for a 29-slip marina located on a common area in the St. Tropez PUD of Lake Austin. Case number C814-74-007 (81) Revision #5

Note: Board member Small reiterated that the Parks Board has been working on the project for approximately 3 years. The initial proposal was for a three story tall boat dock system with an elevator system. That proposal along with a subsequent one was not approved by the Parks Board. The current proposal consists of 29 boat slips (with 2 slips previously approved). The question is where the 2 will be built.

The St. Tropez Association is asking the board to recommend approval of the construction of the marina. Board member Ortiz asked if the boat docks could be leased to which the response was that the boat slips cannot be rented and cannot be sold

separately. Board member Small reiterated that the only question now is where the two boat slips will be built and that only 29 boat slips will be allowed.

Citizen communication: Continued

Kenny Trattner, resident of St. Tropez, read a letter from a resident who was out of town but indicated that she was in support of the marina.

Thomas Calhoon, owner of lot 86 in St. Tropez and with Calhoon properties, informed the board that he opposed to the construction of the 29 slip boat dock marina. He indicated that the lagoon is too small.

Craig Brockman, did not speak but is opposed to the construction of the marina.

Judd Willmann, spoke in opposition to the St. Tropez marina.

Board member Small moved to approve the recommendation regarding St. Tropez Marina for a 29-slip marina located on the common area in the St. Tropez PUD of Lake Austin with the following stipulation: that PARD staff work out the agreement for the final two boat slips prior to construction. Motion was seconded by Board member Ortiz. Motion passed 7-1.

4. Make recommendation regarding the construction of Two-slip Boat Dock at 1430 Rockcliff. Case number SP-05-1281DS

Board member Small reported that owners the two-slip boat dock at 1430 Rockcliff have submitted plans that required only 7% of shoreline frontage and have agreed by restrictive covenant to not expand to 20% of shoreline frontage. As a result, Board member Small move to approve the construction of the two-slip boat dock at 1430 Rockcliff. Board member Francell seconded, motion passed unanimously.

F. Director's Report

Director Struss on the following:

- Annual report for 2004
- The department has been asked by a City Council member to explore other options for the South Austin Tennis Center. Note: we are in preliminary discussion with AISD regarding this issue.
- The future of our Park Police Unit. (Currently three units, Park Police, City Marshal's office and Aviation Police unit are non-service police units that now have the right to Meet and Confer). The proposal going to council is to consolidate all the units.
- Town Lake Park bids for the construction of the park are 3 million dollars over the amount of money available. Two competitive bids were received.
- The policy budget will be presented by the City Manager on Thursday, July 28th at 2:00 p.m. Budget hearings (Pard's) will be presented on August 4th.

- Board members were invited to attend the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) conference in San Antonio in October. Registration will be covered by the department.

G. Committee Reports

Land and Facilities: Board member Boyt reported that there is still concern regarding the lease free area at Auditorium Shores. It was agreed that staff would look into the problem and possibly fix the erosion problem. The Sand Beach proposal was tabled.

Navigation: N/A

Programs: Board member Guerrero reported on the Summer Playground program, the Hershey's track meet and that day camps are winding down.

I. Items from Board Members

Board member Boyt report on the 1) a Down Town Plan (similar to the Neighborhood plan) and 2) Green Water Treatment plant. Study to be completed by December 2005.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.